



The Blurb



Newsletter of The Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club

61 Years of Public Service, 1949 to 2010

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Computer at the repeater with Internet service, VOIP phone line and Echolink



Here is a picture of the installation at the repeater. The radio, interface, and power-supply are on the shelf above the computer. I positioned the computer so we can easily get to all the necessary connections. All is working fine. de ED, KB3IV

Memorial Day is May 31st



*Fly the flag ...
And thank a Veteran*

We sadly note the passing of Jack Wright, K3CHR's, wife Genevieve in March and Art Lester, W3FWI's wife, Marion in January.
Condolences to them and their families.

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| <p>The Blurb is published monthly by and for the members of The PHIL-MONT MOBILE RADIO CLUB, Inc., whose purpose is to promote Amateur Radio in general, and Mobile Radio in particular. Copying and quoting is permitted with a credit line. We gladly exchange publications with other amateur radio clubs. Requests should be sent to the Editor. Subscriptions are available to non-members for \$12, addressed to the Treasurer.</p> <p>Editor: Rick DeVirgiliis ND3B nd3b@arrl.net 215-908-7225</p> <p>Club Archivist: Gwen Patton NG3P ng3p@arrl.net 610-630-9862</p> <p>Labels and mailing: KB3IV</p> <p>Submissions deadline: All copy must be in the hands of the Editor by the 20th of the previous month.</p> | <p>Directors:</p> <p>W3AOK (12) KB2ERL (10) WU3I (11) WA3KIO (12) N3MT (10) W3STW (11) N3XKE (12)</p> | <p>Contact Phil-Mont: P.O. Box 88 Abington, PA 19001 http://www.phil-mont.org Website: Eric N3QV & Maggie K3XS</p> <p>For club information: Contact any club officer, or the repeaters listed below. Address or club directory changes and articles for the membership e-mail list should be sent to: WB3KOJ@comcast.net</p> | |
| <p>Sunday Morning Net Schedules</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 Meter/ 70cm Net at 0930L on W3QV repeater • 10-on-10 Net at 1000L 28.393 MHz USB (\pmQRM) • 75 meter Net at 1020L 3.993 MHz LSB • ARES at 2100L on the W3QV repeater | | | |
| <p>Committees</p> <p>Archives: NG3P</p> <p>Audit: NS3K</p> <p>Blurb folding: WB3KOJ & WB3KOH</p> <p>Directory: KB3IV</p> | <p>DX: N3MT</p> <p>Emerg.Coor: K3HWE</p> <p>Field Day: KE3QB</p> <p>Internet: N3QV & K3XS</p> <p>Membership: N3XKE</p> <p>Net Control: KB3IV</p> | <p>Publicity: W3RM</p> <p>Program: Club VP</p> <p>Public Service: KE3QB</p> <p>Refreshments: W3AOK</p> <p>Repeater: W3AOK</p> | <p>Scholarship: W3RM</p> <p>Skywarn: WX3PHI</p> <p>Sunshine: N3GLU</p> <p>VE Program: NS3K</p> <p>Welcome: N3UBY</p> <p>Youth: N3MT</p> |

All visitors are welcome!

The club meets at 7:30 PM on the **second** non-holiday Wednesday each month except July and August at
Roxborough Memorial Hospital, 5800 Ridge Avenue, Philadelphia, PA 19128
Maps and directions are available at www.phil-mont.org.

License Examinations are held on the fourth **non-holiday Thursday** each month at
Community Ambulance Association, 1414 E. Butler Pike, Ambler PA 19002

Registration begins at 7:00 P.M. Applicants should contact Jim McCloskey NS3K at 215-275-2979 or jmcclloskey@msn.com for the latest information.

Club Stations W3QV/R: The Jim Spencer Memorial Repeater System
Ridge & Port Royal Avenues, Philadelphia, PA **Trustee: W3RM**
147.03 MHz + PL 91.5 Hz 444.80 MHz + PL 186.2 Hz
Reach us on EchoLink through W3QV-R
W3AA Trustee: WU3I
W3EM: Field Day/special event station Trustee: N3QV

The Officers

Pres: **KB3IV Ed Masarsky** 310 Saw Mill Ln. Horsham PA 19044 kb3iv@comcast.net
Vice Pres: **N3QV Eric D. Marano**, PO BOX 233, Skippack PA 19474 n3qv@arrl.net
Sec: **KB3MIV Jen Miller** 9427 Kirkwood Rd. 1st Fl. Phila 19114 jencaz@verizon.net
Treas: **W3RM Richard A. Moll** roger.mike@verizon.net
Asst. Treas: **N3MT Michael P. Taraborrelli** michaelmt_1999@yahoo.com

The Prez Sez ...

Good news. Last month I wrote about our plans to install a computer at the repeater with Internet service and a VOIP phone line. Mission accomplished. We also added Echolink directly at the site. All systems are working perfectly. Please note that our node on Echolink is listed as W3QV-R and our node number is 507410. The only restriction is that we do not allow other repeaters to connect. Single users and links can connect. Many thanks to Steve, WU3I, for the use of his link radio, interface and power supply. Look for the picture of the installation in this month's Blurb. (*See cover*)

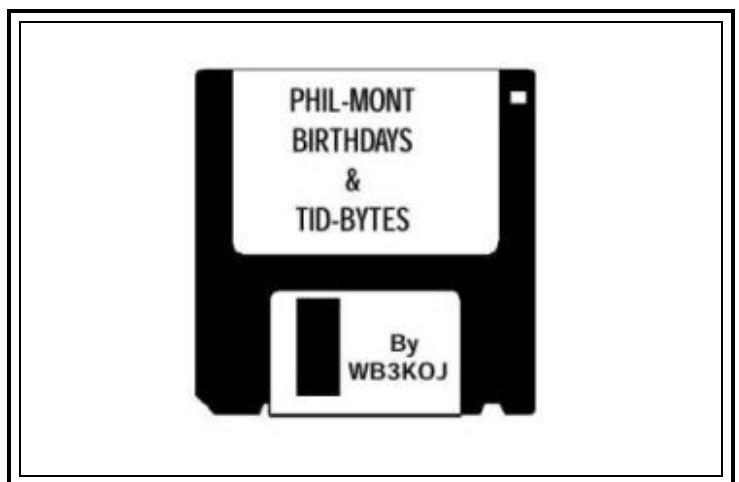
Our guest speaker at the April meeting was Doug Crompton, WA3DSP, who gave a power point presentation about QCWA, the Quarter Century Wireless Association, and also AWA, the Antique Wireless Association. Thank you to Doug for his interesting and informative presentation.

Field Day is the weekend of June 26 and 27. Time to make your plans and drag out your once a year gear. Air out that tent you packed away last year. Chase out the little critters to make room for new critters. Make sure your radios and antennas are ready for non-stop usage. We have started our list of band captains but still have some open slots. You must contact our FD Coordinator, Carmen, KE3QB, and let him know your interest. We also need information from those who have already signed up as to how many people will be with you and for what time period. We need this information for the catering service, so we don't run out of food for the weekend.

This year we will all be using a new Field Day Logging program. I used it last year and found it to be very simple and comfortable to use. It is called Squirl – Field Day Logger 8. The download for the program is available at www.qsl.net/k/kc8opv//squirl-fd. Please install it on your laptop and make yourself familiar with it before Field Day. We will be able to retrieve your logs at the FD site or you can email them to Carmen.

Hope to see many of our members and guests at the May meeting. Speaking of guests, be sure to invite your Ham and NonHam friends to Field Day.

de Ed, KB3IV

**May Birthdays**

05 Paul Policarpo - N3PP

17 Herb Scott - N3OLK

28 Peggy Kaufmann - KB3DID

29 Maggie Leber - K3XS

30 Bill Chedeville - W3GQD

Membership Stats

At press time, P.M.R.C. had:

78 Full Paid Members

8 Family Members

4 Youth Members (Under 17)

2 Honorary Members

1 Pending Member

DIRECTORY CHANGE

Please note the following change to the 2010 Directory:
Add 610-495-0550 as the home phone number for KB3ANO and K3FSB.

NOTE: Please contact Ed, KB3IV, with any future directory changes or mailing issues.



The next VE session is on Thursday, May 20th at 7 pm.

Many thanks to our VE team!

From the Secretary ...**PMRC BoD Meeting Minutes, April 7th, 2010**

KB3IV began the meeting at 2000. Attending the meeting were Ed, KB3IV; Al, W3STW; Sam, K3GBA; Bill, W3AOK; Steve, WU3I; Dick, W3RM; Gene, N3XKE; Fred, WA3KIO; Bob KB2ERL; and Jen KB3MIV.

W3RM, Treasurer, reported first quarter finances. We spoke about the scholarship program. A New member applicant was discussed Frank Kohn, KB3TEZ. KB3IV spoke about WB3KOJ doing such a great job with all the hard work on the yearly directory and The Blurb every month. He also thanked W3AOK for all of his help. He reminded everyone that Field Day keeps getting closer and it's about having a good time. Band captains are needed and responsibilities will be discussed at the meeting. Programs for our General Meetings were discussed. W3AOK discussed the

repeater with the control operators. WU3I made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 2130.

PMRC General Meeting Minutes, April 14th, 2010

Ed, KB3IV, called the meeting to order at 1950. There were 21 members and six guests. He welcomed two new amateurs, Audrey Uebelhoer, KB3UFX and Michaela Uebelhoer, KB3UFY, and a past Phil-Mont president, Bob Ricker, N3EAY. N3XKE mentioned there is a new member, Frank Kohn, KB3TEZ. They were all welcomed at the meeting by applause.

KB3IV reviewed the treasurer's report and reminded everyone about the scholarship program. The 2010 scholarship winner will be announced at Field Day. W3AOK covered the state of the repeater. Upcoming events were discussed such as the MS Walks. There is one on May 2nd in Philadelphia. NS3K stated three hams are needed for about half the day for the walk on May 2nd. The MS 150 is September 25th and 26th. The application forms are not available yet. Field Day is coming soon. KB3IV provided an example of the SQUIRL-FD software for Field Day contacts. A link will be listed in this Blurb. Band captains stepped up. A sample Field Day shirt will be at the next General meeting where N3XKE will accept orders. WU3I went over the Friday and Saturday schedule as far as antenna set up and food. NS3K mentioned there will be a VE session on Thursday, April 22nd. ND3B reminded everyone the deadline for Blurb entries are on the 20th of each month. KB3IV welcomed our guest speaker, Doug Crompton, WA3DSP. He spoke about QCWA (Quarter Century Wireless Association) and AWA (Antique Wireless Association). The websites are qcwa.org; antiquewireless.org; Crompton.com; and arrlepa.blogspot.com. The meeting adjourned at 2130.

de Jen, KB3MIV

Field Day and MS walk are just around the corner!
Contact Carmen, KE3QB for details on these events.

Radio Stores ... 'N' More

by Bob Thomas, W3NE

H&R MANUFACTURING**A practical education – with pay!**

In an earlier article on Philadelphia radio stores, I mentioned a manufacturing facility located on the floor above the Herbach and Rademan retail store. The Manufacturing Division of H&R was established by Mr. Herbach in the late 'thirties to custom build products for store customers requiring something beyond the standard product lines of mainstream manufacturers. For example, design and construction of an auditorium lighting control panel for a high school, a radio dispatching system, special public address equipment, or a one-off measuring instrument for a medical lab. An early association with a talented scientist also positioned H&R to exploit the emerging field of nuclear radiation measurement and, with the entry of the U.S. in WW-II, numerous contracts became available for electronic equipment that was an exact fit for H&R's modest production capabilities.

I began working at H&R for 35¢ an hour in the late spring of 1944, after completing eleventh grade at high school. Until that time my best wage was 25¢ after school for incidental yard work or for hour upon hour drilling holes in a concrete floor with a hammer and star drill at a local plastics factory. H&R was a step up from that but it was not always a dream job and there were commuting expenses that meant there was really no gain in wages. However, it was an entry to the field I longed to be in and more importantly, it enabled me to observe the very definition of high quality electronic equipment construction. It couldn't have been too bad, because after that first summer I continued on Saturdays and two afternoons a week when school resumed, and went back again for a second summer in 1945.

H&R, like all the other stores along lower Market Street, occupied a narrow three story building that extended from Market all the way back to Commerce Street in the rear. The store and its stock room were on the ground floor. Offices were

up a flight of stairs at the front of the second floor. The manufacturing section behind the offices consisted of an enclosed room for running final tests, a small office for the Chief Engineer, and then a large open shop. The shop had benches on each side for three or four technicians and several production assembly people, mostly women. A lathe, drill press, foot-operated metal shear, and spot welder were in the back of the shop. Rest rooms and a stock room were at the very back of the building, next to an ancient freight elevator. That elevator was a man-eating monster with a manually-operated gate and small square hole at elbow height in one side. Two cables ran past the hole between the elevator and the wall of the shaft. There were lead blobs on the cables at each floor for the operator to grab by reaching through the hole and pulling up or down to Start and Stop the elevator and change its direction. The trick was to pull on the appropriate lead blob to stop the elevator within a few inches of the outside floor level. This was only one of many risky situations where there was absence of an OSHA in 1944!

The floor of the shop was a menace too. Oiled southern pine floor boards from 1880 ran lengthwise through the whole building. They were fastened to joists with old fashioned cut nails which, because they were stamped out of flat material and tapered on two sides, tended to work upward out of the board. In addition, corners of the old pine boards often split part way off, so they also stuck up slightly above the rest of the floor. Now, in those wartime years of leather shortages, half the population was walking around with holes in the soles of their shoes so, if you weren't careful you might trip over a high nail head caught in your shoe, or suddenly feel a pain in your foot and see 9-inch splinter sticking out the front of your shoe! It was always good for a laugh if somebody was watching.

Jack Wagenseller, W3GS, was the jolly, unflappable, remarkably competent Chief Engineer. Jack had been the ARRL Eastern Pennsylvania SCM (Section Communications Manager) around 1935, at a time when the League and its field organization were much more engaged with local amateur affairs than they are today. In addition to keeping things moving smoothly in the shop, Jack

prepared bids for new jobs, did any engineering necessary to convert contract specs into drawings, and divided work among the most appropriate people in the shop. He had a grand sense of humor and the most even temperament of anyone I ever knew. No matter how complex or disastrous a problem might be, or what stupid stunt someone had pulled, Jack would take a long draw on his ever-present pipe and say in the quietest of tones, "Well now, let's see." Then he would come up with a solution regardless of how hard he personally had to bite the bullet.

Jack told an interesting story about the origin of his call. He had been a resident student at the George School in Newtown. He became interested in ham radio, built a transmitter and began making contacts without the "benefit" of a license, using the school's initials for his call letters. He bootlegged as W3GS for a while until he became proficient enough to pass the FCC test for a Class B license. Just as they are now, calls were assigned strictly in alphabetical order but, to his astonishment, when his license arrived, it was for the very call he had been using for bootleg operation! That was a clear message from the FCC's RI (Radio Inspector) that Jack had been monitored all along and the FCC knew he had been bootlegging. Uncharacteristically, the RI went along anyway with just a subtle tweak to let him know he had not gotten away with anything. Jack claimed that story is true and if so, we should all be so lucky!

On my first day at work I was paired as assistant with Jake Mayer, a technician whose electronic construction was exquisite. On this project, however, Jake's versatility was put to the test with something entirely different. H&R had secured a contract to build thirty-three production test stations for the International Resistance Company (IRC), the nation's Second Banana resistor manufacturer (after Allen Bradley). IRC needed to rapidly expand production capacity to meet increasing demands of the military. Each test station had a large plywood hopper into which resistors were dumped by the thousands. An operator opened a shutter at the bottom of the hopper to let one or two resistors drop down. The operator then pressed a resistor's leads across a pair of contacts connected to an automatic resistance bridge that classified it into a tolerance

range of 5- 10- or 20-percent. The resistor would subsequently be color coded in another operation. The hoppers, made of 3/8" plywood, were about 18" tall, open about 15"x9" at the top, narrowing down to 3"x2" at the bottom where the shutter was located. While others were building the measuring equipment, Jake and I made the hoppers – not exactly the electronics experience I had hope for!

Resigned to our fate, Jake and I began moving the plywood on that arm-amputating elevator to a loft on the third floor. There was a table saw there, but nothing else except rows of fire buckets full of water hanging from brackets along the brick walls, as required by City fire regulations. Jake laid out the 4x8 sheets to minimize waste, and we were making pretty good progress sawing, stacking, coughing and going deaf from the noise. Then, as we were handling one of the plywood sheets, it just clipped a fire bucket, which fell off its bracket onto the floor. As I looked around for something to wipe up the spilled water, Jake yelled, "Forget that, come with me, quick!" We ran to the elevator for the floor below, and rushed through the shop to the business office right under the spot where the bucket had fallen. The office staff had gone for the day, and Jake told me to grab newspapers and spread them over the all desks while he gathered up important looking papers. We had no sooner finished when streams of water began raining down from the ceiling. Remember those 1880 plank floors? They were like sieves, and Jake was wise enough to realize it would not be long before the water in that spilled bucket would be on the office below.

Eventually, after all the wood parts had been cut out, we nailed and glued the hoppers together, sanded them and sprayed shellac on them to finish our part of the job. It was a relief to both of us. Jake returned to laying out and wiring complex circuits and I began working on other projects. Some of those were interesting and instructional, and others, well . . . More about that next time.

This just in...

at the May general meeting, on May 12, we're to join in on the October, 2009 DX-Pedition to WWII battleground Midway Atoll, in the Pacific, K4M. Introduction by W3RM, followed by showing of the official DX-pedition DVD, just released last month.

de W3RM

New member application

KB3TEZ has applied for membership (unfortunately two days late to make the April Blurb.):

Frank J. Kohn - KB3TEZ
6655 McCallum St. #303-W
Philadelphia, PA 19119
Phone (Home): 215-843-8681
DOB: 10/08/1958
License Class: Technician (Exp. 7/27/19
Occupation: Consultant
ARRL Member: Exp. 1/1/11
Email: frank.j.kohn@gmail.com
and kb3tez@arrl.net

For Sale:

Double Braided Dacron Rope 3/16 diameter.
Black in color. Will cut to requested length. \$0.14 per foot.

Mosley TA-33 beam \$100.00 each (2 available)
Cushcraft A-3 beam \$100.00 (1 available)
Ham M rotors with control boxes rebuilt and guaranteed for one year. \$150.00 each (3 available)
Contact **Steve, WU3I**, with any questions about the items above.
Please feel free to forward to other clubs of which you are a member.

Also for sale ...

B&K 10 MHz single-channel solid-state oscilloscope
HP606A r.f. signal generator 50 kHz to 65 MHz, tube-type
Optoelectronics FC-50 frequency counter, Pagel Electronics 6-VHF-A frequency counter, Hallicrafters S-19R Sky Buddy, restored.
National One-Ten VHF receiver, c. 1936, restored.
ARRL handbooks 1933 - onward
Kenwood TS-830, works good except VFO hops 1 kHz.
Pilot Super Wasp, regenerative receiver, c. 1928, restored.
RCA Aeriola Senior, 1-tube battery receiver
Triplett 1696-A modulation meter, c. 1940
Rider's Perpetual Troubleshooter's Manuals
Volumes 1 - 17 plus indexes
Atwater Kent 20C, no tubes, c. 1925, fair condition
Atwater Kent 35, c. 1926, fair condition
Stuart Ballantine's homebrew loose coupler tuner, c. 1916. (One of Philadelphia's wireless pioneers.)
W. J. Murdock kit breadboard receiver, c. 1924, Zenith tombstone receiver, Model 5-S-228, c. 1938, restored, original finish is excellent.
Kreco 10 meter coaxial vertical antenna, 45+ mobile antennas, old technical books, and more.

Contact **Tom Bohlander WA3KLR**, 215-536-1331 for items above.

I'm baack!

Well I got one eye fixed on the 14th and now I see what I've been missing. Wow! (When did they put those lines down the middle of the road?) Getting the other done on the 28th. So I gave my lovely assistant the month off and did the Blurb all by myself. Hope it's up to her standards! - 73, **ND3B**

May at PMRC ...

- 2nd** Sunday - WB3KOJ NCS
- 7th** Wed - Board of Directors meeting
- 9th** Sunday - KB3SJS NCS
- 14th** Wed - General Membership Meeting
- 16th** Sunday - KB3IV NCS
- 20th** Thurs - VE test session
- 23rd** Sunday - WU3I NCS
- 30th** Sunday - N3QV NCS
- 31st** Monday - Memorial Day

*If undeliverable return to:
310 Saw Mill Lane Apt 6D
Horsham PA 19044*

And don't forget the ARES net every Sunday night at 2100L on the club repeater.

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First Class Mail